

REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO AN APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.14(e)

In re Application of

Campbell

Application Number

09/371.776

Filed

8/10/99

Art Unit

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Paper No. _____

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(12) **United States Patent**
Campbell et al.

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(45) **Date of Patent:** ***Jul. 2, 2002**

(54) **INFLATOR**

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(*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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(21) **Appl. No.:** **09/589,341**

(22) **Filed:** **Jun. 7, 2000**

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/259,362, filed on Feb. 26, 1999, now Pat. No. 6,227,562, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/371,776, filed on Aug. 10, 1999.

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **B60R 21/22; B60R 21/26**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **280/730.2; 280/737; 137/68.13; 137/71**

(58) **Field of Search** **280/737, 736, 280/741, 730.2; 137/68.13, 71**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus (10) for helping to protect an occupant of a vehicle (12) that has a side structure (16) includes an inflatable vehicle occupant protection device (14). The inflatable vehicle occupant protection device (14) is inflatable into a position between the side structure of the vehicle and a vehicle occupant. The apparatus (10) includes an inflator (22) for inflating the inflatable vehicle occupant protection device (14) and for maintaining the inflatable vehicle occupant protection device in an inflated condition for at least five seconds. The inflator (22) contains a stored inflation fluid under pressure. The inflation fluid consists essentially of helium.

23 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

